

Agency Secretary

California Regional Water Quality Control Board

Central Coast Region



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Schwarzenegger Governor

MINUTES OF **REGULAR MEETING** Wednesday, June 1, 2005 Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board

Wednesday, June 1, 2005

Chairman Jeffrey Young called the meeting of the Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board to order at 10:00 on June 1, 2005, at the Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board Conference Room, 895 Aerovista Place – Suite 101, San Luis Obispo, California.

Board Members Present:

Chairman Jeffrey Young Vice-Chair Russell Jeffries Leslie Bowker (arrived 11:00) **Bruce Daniels** John Hayashi Monica Hunter

Absent:

Gary Shallcross Don Villeneuve **Daniel Press**

Executive Officer Roger Briggs introduced staff and asked all interested parties who wished to comment to fill out testimony cards and submit them. He said Mr. Shallcross had a car problem on the way to the meeting and Dr. Bowker would be arriving soon.

Executive Officer Briggs and Assistant Executive Officer Thomas provided an introduction and background to this item. They explained staff's efforts to develop a long-term vision for the Regional Board, reviewed past efforts to focus Board and staff efforts on permanent, tangible results and the recent long-term vision discussions with the Board (June 2004 and March 2005). Lisa McCann and John Robertson described the most recent staff efforts including three vision creation meetings with staff over the past two months, and development of priority issues. The Board previously asked for participation by as many staff as possible, with all staff ideas coming forward, unfiltered, to the Board. Consequently, Regional Board management encouraged all staff to share their ideas, and many staff have been participating.

Ms. McCann explained that for purposes of this discussion, Board members are stakeholders along with staff in developing the vision for the Regional Board, unlike more typical engagement where Board members provide direction to or approve recommendations of staff (this approach is also consistent with this meeting's agenda notice, which allows for discussion but not Board action). Ms. McCann facilitated the Board members in a consensus-building session in order to 1) illustrate some of the methods being used by staff to create the vision collaboratively, 2) solicit Board member feedback and 3) gain Board member consensus on the priority issues. All Board members present agreed with the issues. Board members provided the following input: issue statements illustrate the broad scope of our organization's work; education

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and outreach were not emphasized and should be included in the process; terms describing outcomes, such as "critical habitat" are vague, and staff should stick to water quality; monitoring has a key role in determining whether we meet our measurable goals; current programs create opportunities to meet the vision; changing land uses to improve water quality is a challenge. Ms. McCann and Mr. Robertson also explained that staff is still developing the overall process to create and implement the vision- we are modeling our process on other existing approaches and we are planning three phases; we are currently in the middle of the first phase, to create the vision and measurable goals. Mr. Robertson explained the

definition of and additional work to develop the measurable goals. Ms. McCann briefly described the second phase- aligning the organization to achieve the goals and vision- and the third phase-implement actions to achieve the goals and vision, and evaluate our efforts. Immediate next steps include considering public involvement and completing development of measurable goals and the vision statement. Subsequent steps include providing status reports to the Board, soliciting additional feedback from Board members, and designing and implementing the next phases of the process.

Chairman Young adjourned the public meeting for a lunch break at 12:20 p.m., The Board reconvened in the parking lot at 1:00 for the noticed field trip to the 1) East Branch of San Luis Obispo Creek, where Land Conservancy of San Luis Obispo Executive Director Brian Stark explained the creek riparian restoration project, which was assisted by settlement funds allocated by the Regional Board, and 2) various locations in the Morro Bay Estuary watershed, led by National Estuary Program Executive Director Dan Berman, explaining progress made in the watershed, assisted in large part by settlement funds allocated by the Regional Board. The tour and meeting adjourned at 3:50 p.m.

The meeting was audio recorded and the minutes were reviewed by management and approved by the Board at its July 7-8, 2005 meeting in San Luis Obispo, California.

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